

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-27 **(Cancel)**.

28. **(New)** A method of operating an internal combustion engine with a variable valve train for a cam-actuated lifting valve, including the steps of hydraulically activating the lifting valve and providing an additional lift during a mechanical lifting phase performed by the cam.

29. **(New)** A method of operating an internal combustion engine with a valve train for a cam-actuated lifting valve, including the step of hydraulically reopening the lifting valve at least once after a mechanical lifting phase performed by the cam has ceased.

30. **(New)** A method of operating an internal combustion engine with a valve train for a cam-actuated lifting valve, including the steps of alternately mechanically and hydraulically determining lifts of subsequent charge exchange processes.